

## **ACTION ITEM**

### **Approval of Association of Bay Area Governments Contract Amendment**

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**Summary:** Staff recommends that the Council approve an amendment to a contract with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). The amendment would extend the term of agreement from June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2020, and increase the current budget of \$851,000 by \$100,000, raising the total to \$951,000.

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### **Requested Action**

Staff is recommends that the Council approve an amendment to a contract with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). The original contract, approved by the Council on Aug. 27, 2015 for \$851,000, is set to expire on June 30, 2018. This amendment would extend the expiration date until June 30, 2020, and increase the current budget in the amount of \$100,000 for a total of \$951,000. The purpose of this amendment is to extend funding for existing efforts currently under this contract including Maven's Notebook, Estuary News, science reviews, the Bay-Delta Science Conference, and the State of the Estuary Conference. In addition, the amendment would allow for joint development of the 2019 Interim State of the Estuary Report, aligning Delta Plan Performance Measures with those applicable for San Francisco Bay, and additional advisory, synthesis, and review services.

The Executive Officer has delegated authority up to \$500,000 to enter into contracts and interagency agreements on the Council's behalf. Because this amendment adds to a contract that exceeds that amount, the amendment requires Council approval.

### **Background**

ABAG is a Joint Powers Authority comprised of 101 cities and nine counties, including two Delta Counties, in the San Francisco Bay Area including the Suisun Marsh. ABAG provides institutional support for multi-agency planning, environmental, and scientific projects in a region that overlaps with the Council's authority.

The Delta Science Program utilizes this contract to meet demands of core functions such as peer review, synthesis, and science communication efforts by leveraging ABAGs ability to provide access to independent science experts. These experts are essential to the Program's independent scientific reviews and scientific synthesis efforts. The San Francisco Estuary Partnership is a program of ABAG with expertise in organizing the State of the Estuary Conference and Bay-Delta Science Conference. Communication products prepared under this agreement, including Maven's Notebook and Estuary News, help bridge the gap between scientists and the layperson. By extending this contract, and adding funds, the Delta Stewardship Council will be able to

continue these efforts, as well as implement additional communication, advisory, synthesis, and review services.

### **Fiscal Information**

This amendment would increase the original contract amount of \$851,000 by \$100,000, bringing the total to \$951,000. The additional time and funds will allow the Delta Stewardship Council to continue the following existing efforts currently under this contract:

- Fund science experts for advisory, synthesis, and review services
- Organize science conferences including the 2018 Bay-Delta Science Conference and the 2019 State of the Estuary conference
- Support science communication efforts including Estuary News and Maven's Notebook.

Additionally, the amendment provides funds to support the regular update of the State of the Estuary Report, together with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership. The 2019 update will build on the 2015 edition, which for the first time reported on environmental and stewardship indicators for the whole 12-county Bay-Delta region from Sacramento to Santa Clara Counties. Our staff is working closely with SFEP staff to include the Delta Plan Performance Measures in 2019 update. Also included in this amendment are ABAG administrative costs at 15 percent. These costs are associated with contract reporting, invoice preparation, and subcontract development and management.

### **List of Attachments**

No attachments

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